

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1 and 3-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. 4,397,799 (Edgren et al), is respectfully traversed.

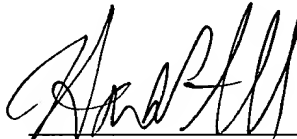
The claims now have the limitations of Claim 2, not subject to this rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection over Edgren et al be withdrawn.

Applicants note that while the Office Action indicates an Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO 1449, attached to the Office Action, no such form was attached. The Examiner is respectfully requested to attach said form with the next Office communication. In the event the uninitialed original of said form has been lost, and as only one IDS has been filed (on September 25, 2003), **enclosed herewith** is a copy of said uninitialed original form.

All of the presently pending claims in this application are now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAN 23 2004

SHEET 1 OF 1

Form PTO 1449
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
216266US0SERIAL NO.
09/988,145

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Yoshihiro SHIGEMORI, et al.

FILING DATE

November 19, 2001

GROUP

1732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,753,156	05-19-98	SHIGEMORI et al.			
	AB	4,513,106	04-23-85	EDGREN et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

☐ Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.